

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>CRIMINAL NO.    <u>07-376</u></b>
<b>v.</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>DATE FILED:                    _____</b>
<b>CHRISTOPHER CHEATHAM</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>VIOLATIONS:</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 924(a)(1)(A) (false statements to a federal firearms licensee - 2 counts) Notice of forfeiture</b>

**INFORMATION**

**COUNT ONE**

**THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES THAT:**

At all times material to this information:

1.       Philadelphia Archery and Gun Club, 831-33 Ellsworth Street,  
Philadelphia, PA, possessed a federal firearms license (“FFL”) and was authorized to deal in  
firearms under federal laws.
  
2.       FFL holders are licensed, among other things, to sell firearms and  
ammunition. Various rules and regulations, promulgated under the authority of Chapter 44, Title  
18, United States Code, govern the manner in which FFL holders are permitted to sell firearms  
and ammunition.
  
3.       The rules and regulations governing FFL holders require that a person  
seeking to purchase a handgun fill out a Firearm Transaction Record, ATF Form 4473. Part of  
the Form 4473 requires that the prospective purchaser certify that all his or her answers on Form  
4473 are true and correct. Question 12(a) of ATF Form 4473 requires that the prospective  
purchaser certify truthfully, subject to penalties of perjury, that he or she is the actual buyer of the

firearm. The ATF Form 4473 contains language warning that “You are not the actual buyer if you are acquiring the firearm(s) on behalf of another person. If you are not the actual buyer, the dealer cannot transfer the firearm(s) to you.” The Form 4473 also includes a certification by the buyer of the firearm(s) that “I understand that answering ‘yes’ to question 12(a) if I am not the actual buyer of the firearm is a crime punishable as a felony.”

4. A person who purchases a firearm for another person and falsely completes the Form 4473 is a “straw purchaser.”

5. FFL holders are required to maintain a record, in the form of a completed Form 4473, of the identity of the actual buyer of firearms sold by the FFL holder, including the buyer’s home address and date of birth, to ensure that the person is not prohibited from purchasing a firearm.

6. On or about September 8, 2005, in Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**CHRISTOPHER CHEATHAM,**

in connection with the acquisition of a Glock Model 19, 9mm pistol, serial number CGM917US, from Philadelphia Archery and Gun Club, knowingly made a false statement and representation with respect to information required by the provisions of Chapter 44, Title 18, United States Code, to be kept in the FFL holder’s records, in that defendant CHEATHAM certified on the Form 4473 that he was the actual buyer of the firearms, when in fact, as the defendant knew, this statement was false and fictitious.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(a)(1)(A).

**COUNT TWO**

**THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

At all times material to this information:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 5 of Count One of this information are incorporated here.

2. On or about October 15, 2005, in Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**CHRISTOPHER CHEATHAM,**

in connection with the acquisition of a Glock Model 19, 9mm pistol, serial number HNL058, from Philadelphia Archery and Gun Club, knowingly made, and aided, abetted, and willfully caused, a false statement and representation with respect to information required by the provisions of Chapter 44, Title 18, United States Code, to be kept in the FFL holder's records, in that defendant CHEATHAM certified on the Form 4473 that he was the actual buyer of the firearms, when in fact, as the defendant knew, this statement was false and fictitious.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(a)(1)(A).

**NOTICE OF FORFEITURE**

**THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

As a result of the violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(a)(1)(A),  
set forth in this information, defendant

**CHRISTOPHER CHEATHAM**

shall forfeit to the United States of America the firearms involved in the commission of such  
offenses, including, but not limited to:

- (1) Glock Model 19, 9mm pistol, serial number CGM917US; and
- (2) Glock Model 19, 9mm pistol, serial number HNL058.

All pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), and Title 18,  
United States Code, Section 924(d).

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**PATRICK L. MEEHAN**  
**United States Attorney**